

## SCOTT COUNTY KICKER

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### ITS FRIENDS DISAPPOINTED.

The most important measure before the Missouri legislature was the platform pledge of the so-called Democratic party of the state—the initiative and referendum. This meant more to the people of the state than all else combined. It meant the rule of the people, if properly submitted. But the friends of this all-important measure are sorely disappointed. Although the so-called Democrats have, in three campaigns, pledged themselves to this reform, yet the measure was allowed to be handled by its enemies.

And its enemies—the State House Ring—deny and trample under foot the noble coat of arms of Missouri: "Salus populi suprema lex esto," meaning "The welfare of the people is the supreme law." Instead they have substituted: "The welfare of the Ring is the supreme law," and along this line we are governed. The Missouri World very appropriately says:

"The proposed state constitutional amendment, on which the people of Missouri will vote in the fall of 1904, provides for the initiative and referendum to a certain extent, but makes it exceedingly difficult to get a law referred. The per cent of the total vote of the state required to sign a petition in order to get a law submitted is about double what it is in South Dakota and Oregon. In addition to this, there is another disadvantage in the proposed Missouri amendment—it requires the petitioners to be obtained pro rata in every congressional district in the state. Still another disadvantage to the Missouri proposition is that the referendum cannot be used as to appropriation bills nor as to bills which pass the legislature by a two-thirds majority. The difficulties were introduced for the purpose of defeating the object of the measure. That it was submitted in any form was owing to pledges of candidates made before the election. After the amendment has been adopted, as it surely will be, the whole thing may be set aside on some technicality by the state supreme court. Exercising a balance of power between the old party candidates, voting for such as will pledge themselves to vote so and so is a fascinating theory, but an impractical one. At one time we were almost persuaded that that was the shortest and surest way to obtain reform and progress. But we lost faith in it long ago. We believe the only way to overthrow the rule of plutocracy is for the people who want just and progressive system to band themselves together in a political party and make a clean sweep, from President down. Men and principles must go in together."

Says the Appeal to Reason: "The Missouri courts have fined the great packing houses \$5,000 each for violating the state anti-trust laws, which prohibits agreeing on prices. The packers at once reduced the price of cattle and made the fine back twenty times the next day. Or, to put it otherwise, the courts fined the trust \$5,000 and the trust fined the farmers \$100,000. The trust smiles at the duplicity of the public that thinks it can get ahead of it. The trust fixes the price it will pay for cattle, fixes the price the public must pay for meat and fixes the price of wages of its employees. This is the joker and both bowers in the game, and the fool public thinks it can beat it with a fine of \$5,000, which is no more to the meat trust than a 5-cent cigar to the ordinary man. If there ever was a gullible people, certainly it is the American public."

Oh, no; there is no politics in the World's Fair, St. Louis. Oh, no. But if there is a single believer in the Kansas City platform that is getting a crumb of the millions of "pie" that is being distributed, the Kicker would like to know his address. Cleveland has been invited to be the guest of President Francis during the blow-out on April 30. Bryan is not to be present at all.

The Caruthersville Democrat wants us to drop "Cleveland and Bryan and quit paying attention to what they say." Well, then, to whom shall we pay attention, Mr. Democrat? It is little trouble to raise objections, but quite difficult to offer satisfactory remedies. Given a straight tip. Shall it be Dave Francis or Mark Hanna?

Farmers are peculiar people. None are satisfied and none will kick. And it is quite likely that they will be too busy to either be satisfied or kick. But the Kicker would be pleased to have a few lines from any farmer at any time.

Do you know that the Kicker editor has many subscribers who have never met and would like to meet them next week. Monday week the mail will begin to grind. Come in and make yourself known.

## IT'S THE LAW.

"Just why the innocent purchaser of a fraudulent bond is entitled to legal protection while the buyer of a stolen horse is not, is vexatious to the ordinary mind, but it doesn't bother the average court of justice a bit—not even when everybody knows the purchaser was not nearly so 'innocent' as he swears in the petition. In the instance of the horse, if A buys him from B, A can make B pay him back the purchase money when the fact that the animal was stolen is determined. Why not the same rule apply in the case of the bond?"—Iron County Register.

Because it isn't the "law," Bro. Ake. If the men who deal in horses and cattle and other products of the farm had been as active in securing favorable legislation as the men who deal in stocks and bonds, the law might be different. You see, it is quite necessary that the "innocent purchaser" should be protected. Otherwise the "business" men would have no place to dump their gold bricks—and this would tend to disturb "business."

### WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

"The oil trust having obtained control of the Belmont field has raised the price of fuel oil to \$1 a barrel. This is prohibitive, and many firms that installed oil burners a year ago at a heavy cost are preparing to take them out and return to the use of coal. It is a shame and an outrage that these villainous trusts can perform such secondhandism and not be overtaken."—Poplar Bluff Republican.

You seem to be honest about it, and the Kicker has no desire to "take you down." But will you kindly explain how you can continue to advocate "Hannan" in the face of what you have stated above? The "hard knocks" received by the meat trust from the Missouri supreme court seems to have stimulated that concern, and a dispatch from the East says that "the incorporation of the National Packing Co. in New Jersey, with \$15,000,000 capital, has revived the story that there is soon to be a \$500,000,000 meat combination. It is said with the same show of authority that the National Packing Co. is to be the nucleus of the big beef trust and that representatives of the various companies recently drew up the plans."

It takes a Federal court or a Missouri supreme court to discourage a trust. Nit! MUST BE TOUGH. "The lobby at Jefferson City would be put out of business were it not for the help the Republican minority gives it."—Potosi Independent.

That blamed "Republican minority." They seem to be the whole cheese. They must be constructed of queer stuff.

HAS ONE PAID-UP SUBSCRIBER. Pemiscot Press: "R. W. Faris is the happiest man in Braggadoocio now. He has subscribed to the Pemiscot Press, paid for it for one year, and has a good treat in store for 52 weeks—and he knows it."

The recent Missouri legislature is said to have appropriated five hundred thousand dollars more than the anticipated revenue will pay. The Democratic "party" of Missouri is long on appropriations. To meet the emergency they may have to give the tail of the beef trust another twist.

### You Pay the Freight.

For the four years ending June 30, 1904, congress has appropriated \$2,995,097,957. In round numbers, three billion dollars. Three thousand million dollars! This is about forty dollars per capita. The country with a population of twenty-five thousand pays one million dollars of this tax. A direct tax of this amount on a county of twenty-five thousand inhabitants would be considered very oppressive. In this country it would take an annual levy of four dollars on the hundred to yield a million dollars in four years. There is no prospect of this stupendous national tapation being materially reduced. Whether this great tax burden and other taxes amounting to a vast sum must be paid in scarce money and therefore dear money is a mighty question. The tax burden is not all. There are other payments which do not go up or down with the general level of prices. In four years the railroads collect from the people over five thousand million dollars. The debts of the people amount to many billions. All this must be paid with dollars, whether the dollars be scarce and dear or plenty and cheap. There never was a more just demand than the plank of the People's Party platform which favors a speedy increase in the money volume to not less than fifty dollars per capita. Nothing else would bring such speedy and universal prosperity. The increase in recent years of the per capita of money is but a fraction of what it should be, but it is proof that the Greenbackers and Populists were right in their prescription of a remedy and that those who claimed that there was money enough were mistaken. There is absolutely no other road to prosperity except repudiation, the very suggestion of which is abhorrent. It is more money, repudiation or a nation of slaves.

## From Oran.

Henry Schatz, the Vanduser may-or-and village blacksmith, was here last week circulating among old friends.

R. F. Hollingshead has a job attending to the water tank at McMullin for the Rock Island road, and has moved his family there.

Aunt Lou Meyers has moved to the country. Mr. Dunn occupies the house she vacated.

The Rock Island road hauled about twenty car-loads of gravel for our streets free of charge.

H. A. DeLay is now working at the carpenter trade.

Your correspondent has heard a great many farmers praise the Kicker for the fearless manner in which it exposes political frauds. Verily, the Kicker is the paper for the farmer and labor. May its shadow never grow less.

Jacob Jellin has returned from New Orleans, and his trip seems to have made him ten years younger.

Father Moening visited Father Helm-bach Monday evening.

The old town board was re-elected by increased majorities.

In the prize contest of Hinkle & Chitty, the holder of ticket No. 226 is entitled to choice of either a sewing machine, cook stove, suit of clothes or an overcoat. See if you hold that number.

The dancing hall at the fairgrounds caught fire last Friday. A man who was plowing near by gave the alarm, and the horse trainers and railroad men formed a bucket brigade and soon had the fire under control.

There is a force of dagoes and negroes lining up trucks and putting in ballast on the Rock Island road.

Beach Myers, of the Sikeston neighborhood, was visiting friends here Saturday.

Wm. Friend, of Bird's Hill, was here several days. Mr. Friend had the grip all winter, and last Saturday was his first day out for some time.

Caleb Matthews shipped five car-loads of fine cattle Saturday. J. W. Hobbs also shipped two car-loads.

Peter Dierberger is going into the mercantile business at Piedmont.

Miss Clara Dierberger visited friends at the Cape Sunday.

Our trainers are busy getting their horses in shape for May 20, which will be a big day here. The K. P.'s are to have a convention here at that time.

Our mill is about completed. The work in the engine room has been in charge of Mr. Campbell, of Sikeston, an engineer who thoroughly understands his business.

Val Ambuster has done some artistic horse-shoeing for Morley and Benton people. He delights in making shoes of all kinds, but is not much stuck on muck shoes.

Mrs. J. W. Clemson and Lucile Williams visited Cape this week.

Mrs. Emma Murray leaves Wednesday for her home in Salem, Mo.

Misses Lucy Bryans and Hattie Swin were in town shopping Monday.

Fred Woods went to Sikeston Monday to accept a position as assistant operator.

The Milling Co. is now erecting dwellings for its employees.

Last Wednesday evening the Degree of Honor entertained their friends with a measuring party. All report a good time.

## From Rockview.

W. G. Belk is on the sick list. Roy Jones says cow hunting is nice when he can have a horse to ride.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Whitt are both very sick with small pox.

Mr. Schoen and M. Scherer, of Advance, passed through our burg Sunday.

Theodore Esner says he knows it's garden making time because there hasn't been a girl in town this week.

The weddings that were to have taken place this spring have all vanished, so rumor states. What seems to be the trouble, girls?

Joe Hess, Leo Dumey and Will Turner are log rolling this week.

Frank Welter is improving nicely, we are glad to state.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Amrhein, of Bleda, were up Sunday to see Mrs. Amrhein's mother, Mrs. J. P. Holmes, who is very sick with small pox.

T. G. Belk went to Oran Sunday.

### Scott County Figuring.

Says Farmer Bill to me one day: "Them college chaps are up a tree; 'Plas figures will not lie, they say,' says he."

Says I: "Well what's the trouble now?" "Some brand new catch you want to try?" "You're off on figuring, anyhow," says I.

Says he: "Them addented chicks say two and two make four, you see; 'But as I figure that makes six,' says he."

Says I: "Well I would like to know 'How you make out that brazen lie; 'Though I'm from Benton I'm not slow,' says I."

Says he: "Well, brother Jim and me 'Both married (that's two two's, you see). 'And each pair of us have children three,' says he."

—JOS. H. FAIRFIELD.

Talk Kicker to your friends.

FARMERS!

The business and the circulation of the Kicker just keeps on growing. Keep talking it over with your neighbor, let him read your paper occasionally, and urge him to subscribe.

### A Word to Farmers.

I have blooded and registered stock for sale. English Berkshire boars. Pigs of December last. Also a short horn bull six months old. Pedigree furnished on application.

W. V. MULLER, NEW HAMBURG, MO.

Steam Engine For Sale.

I have a 10-horse power upright engine for sale. For further information call on or write

GEORGE STEHR, OTTUM, MO.

Send Us Names of Your Friends in the Old State.

And we will mail them illustrated pamphlets, booklets and other matter, descriptive of the lands along the Cotton Belt, also inform them of the low rates, dates of sale, etc. Now is a good time to get your friends to visit the Southwest, while the low rates are in effect. Write the names and addresses distinctly and don't be afraid of sending too many.

E. W. LABARGE, G. P. & T. A. St. Louis, Mo.

A Business Change.

Having sold my saloon business to George Harrison I desire to wind up my part of the business and make collections. All who are indebted to me will please call and settle at an early date. After April 1 you will find me in the restaurant business just west of the saloon, where I will be pleased to serve the hungry.

Respectfully, O. S. LECKEY, COMMERCE, MO.

THIRTEEN SALE. Whereas, Frank Hinkle, by his certain deed of trust dated the 14th day of February, 1902, and recorded in the office of the recorder for Scott county, Missouri, in book No. 15, page 306, conveyed to W. H. Tanner, trustee, the following described real estate, situate in the county of Scott and State of Missouri, to-wit: Lots one and two, or more correctly described, the south half of block five in sike's first addition to Sikeston, Mo., and known as the Barber house and lot. Which conveyance was made in trust, to secure the payment of a certain note in said deed of trust described; and Whereas said note is now past due and remains unpaid. Now, therefore, at the request of the legal holder of said note, and in pursuance of the conditions of said deed of trust, I, the undersigned, sheriff of said county, will sell the above described property, at public vendue, to the highest bidder for cash, at the east front door of the court house, in Benton, Scott county, Mo., on FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1904, between the hours of 9 o'clock a. m. and 5 o'clock p. m. for the purpose of satisfying said indebtedness and the cost of executing this trust. JOSE P. WATKINS, Sheriff Scott Co., Mo.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE. Notice is hereby given that letters testamentary upon the estate of Rebecca Scholtz, deceased, have been granted to the undersigned by the Clerk of the Probate Court of Scott county, Missouri, in vacation, bearing date the 24th day of March, 1904. All persons having claims against said estate are required to exhibit them to me for allowance within one year from the date of said letters, or they may be precluded from any benefit of such estate, and if said claims be not exhibited within two years from the date of the publication of this notice they will be forever barred. FRANK MCGRAW, Executor.

Public Sale.

I will sell at public auction in New Hamburg, on

MONDAY, APRIL 18TH, 1904,

The property recently purchased from John Linhart, consisting of a house and lot, saloon fixtures, household and kitchen furniture, two horses, two buggies, incubator, brooder, a lot of corn, and many other articles.

Terms: Five Dollars and under, cash; over \$5.00, a credit of five months will be given, purchaser giving note with approved security. PETER KUN.

Big feet seem ever so much worse when they are cold.

## A Word to Farmers.

Come and examine the Linstroth wagon, absolute dust-proof skain, wide and narrow tire. I handle a variety of buggies, the Oliver chilled plow, the Rock Island disc cultivator—riding and walking, the Collins cultivator, the Tiger cultivator, the Carpo cultivator, Gail harrows—disc and diamond tooth, Milwaukee binders, mowers and hay rakes, Tiger and other rakes.

Come and see the greatest land pulverizer ever brought to the county.

No. 40 Oliver points at 25 cents each.

All other goods proportionally low.

## B. F. EARLES, MORLEY.

Buy a Lot Now in Miller's Addition to Oran Going Like Hot Cakes! Desirable and will Not Last Long.

Ed. L. Miller, Oran. Phil. A. Hafner, Benton.

TAX-PAYERS, TAKE NOTICE! You Get Your Money's Worth And a little over for luck

When you Subscribe for the Scott County Kicker

It is the People's Paper and depends on the People for support.

One Dollar a Year. Subscribe Now. With Semi-Weekly Star \$1.35.

Open Again to the Traveling Public.

## THE BENTON HOUSE,

By Mrs. A. S. Forness.

Comfortable Rooms. Good Table. Reasonable Rates.

Home for Commercial Men.

HANDLE the celebrated Osborne machines, Hay-rakes, Harrows, Twine, and attend to all repairs for same.

The farmers of this county know too well the merits of the Osborne machines for them to need any special mention in this advertisement. A look at the machines will be a sale if you need a machine. Get my prices and favor me with your order if you need a machine or rake.

All repairs and extras at L. J. Dannenmueller's.

A. BLES, KELSO, MO.

D. H. HARPER, BENTON, MO., Real Estate Agent

Farms bought and sold on commission. If you want a home in Scott county or any where in the state on easy terms, apply to me.

CHAS. D. MESSMER, Contractor and Builder

Will do straight or contract work. All work guaranteed.

Go to R. H. McLean, Oran, for bright pea hay.

B. C. MOORE, DEALER IN Improved and Unimproved FARM LANDS.

Will buy your farm or can sell you one on terms to suit. OFFICES: COMMERCE, MO. KEOSAU, IOWA.

If You Need FINISHING LUMBER, SHINGLES, PLASTER LATHS, DOORS, SASH, BLINDS, OR Builders' Material of Any Kind, Mike Welter, KELSO, MO.

And Still it Goes on! The Great Cut-Price Sale at Hinkle & Chitty's.

We have already begun building to Enlarge Our Store. Our Spring Goods are arriving and will be opened only in such quantities as will supply the trade. For the new and enlarged building we want an entirely new and fresh stock. That is why we continue selling off the present stock at such low prices.

Holder of Ticket No. 226 will please present the same and get the \$20 Prize.

Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes, Groceries, Hardware, Notions, Everything!

Come and see what we can do for you. We want your produce and will pay the top price.

Most Respectfully Yours,

HINKLE & CHITTY, Dealers in Everything, - Oran, Mo.